

INCREASE YIELD OF GARDEN SOIL

Only Well-Rotted Manure Should Be Applied as Top Dressing in the Spring.

ADD SOME NITRATE OF SODA

Several of Salad Crops Require Plenty of Nitrogen for Leaf Growth—Application of Nitrate of Soda Has Advantage.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Nothing equals plenty of stable or yard manure to make a good crop. Properly used, it is the Gardner's speciality. The United States Department of Agriculture mean by this not merely a meager scattering over the surface, but an application so liberal that it should be piled in a compass heap to rot. Only well-rotted manure should be applied in the spring as a top dressing. After the manure has been scattered, the manure should be worked into the surface and work it in with the harrow. If the garden is spaded the manure should be worked in with a spading or fork or rake.

Elements Sometimes Deficient.

Large quantities of manure should be used. On a plot of ground 40 by 100 feet, apply from one to two tons—two loads in the fall. If a truck is used for hauling one load generally amounts to 1000 pounds. If a manure spreader is used, the autumn with a little soil or soil mixed with it, and worked over once or twice during the winter, it will give a good supply of compost for use as a spring top dressing.

Where this amount of manure is used very little chemical fertilizer is needed. However, manure very often does not have a sufficient quantity of nitrogen, phosphate and calcium in it, and it is the notable fact that commercial fertilizers containing 2 or 3 per cent nitrogen, 8 or 10 per cent phosphoric acid and 3 to 6 per cent potash, at the rate of 100 pounds per ton of garden, will be more than enough to fertilize and work into the soil when the land is being pulverized ready for planting.

Several crops require special fertilizers. For example, when sowing spinach, radish, and in fact all of the salad crops, and those which are grown



Heavily Manured Garden Means Increased Production.

for greens, need plenty of nitrogen to make leaf growth. These crops might well be fertilized with manure which is paired by a little nitrate of soda not exceeding ten pounds on a tenth of an acre at any one application. The applications should be at least three weeks apart. This may not be applied with the intent of saving labor, but too large quantities, or burning will follow and injure the plants. Fruits and crops like beans, peas and corn, that are grown for their seeds, need plenty of phosphoric acid. Root crops, as parsnips, carrots and beets, require plenty of potash.

Many gardens are improved by applications of lime. However, it may injure leafy plants, for lime promotes the growth of weeds which are especially harmful. Except to land to be planted in potatoes, lime applied once every three years at the rate of 200 to 300 pounds on a tenth-acre garden will be a decided advantage. Lime is used to sweeten the soil, and the manure it makes heavy clay soils lighter and easy to cultivate.

Green-Manure Crops.

Another way to improve gardens is the use of "green-manured" crops, such as clovers, rye, alfalfa, barley, and, in fact, almost anything which will grow upon the land during the fall and winter. The clovers and other closely related plants, however, have the power of gathering the free nitrogen from the air and storing it up in the soil are the most desirable. Green-manure crops should be turned under in early spring.

IMPORTANCE OF FARM DIARY

Among Other Things It Will Prevent You from Buying Milk Twice If Record Is Made.

A farm diary may save you time in many ways, since it may be used as a record of all credit business done by the farm. Specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture suggest that blank pages in the back of the diary be used for such accounts.

Give Hogs Butter Milk.

Buttermilk is a good feed for the hog ration, according to G. V. Glafelter of the Iowa agricultural experiment station.

Orchard on Every Farm.

Practically every farm in the country has a small tract of land that could be devoted to a home orchard.

Dehorn the Calves Early.

The removal of horns from dairy cattle is a practice which is recommended under most conditions.

PLAN TO ERADICATE DISEASE OF POTATO

Intensive Warfare Being Made to Stamp Out Wart.

Aliment Usually Destroys Entire Crop When Tubers Susceptible to It Are Planted in Badly Infested Ground.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Although their efforts to eradicate the potato wart from the 100 acres or less in which it has found lodgment in the United States, as a result of close pathogenic contacts of the United States Department of Agriculture are continuing an intensive scientific warfare to stamp out the disease. The efforts, which began in 1915, have met with some success, but an application to adopt the method of the fall found a protecting cover during the winter. It is this, the disease should be turned under as early in the spring as possible, but any material too hard to be turned up, should be piled in a compass heap to rot. Only well-rotted manure should be applied in the spring as a top dressing. After the manure has been applied, the surface should be worked over once or twice during the winter, it will give a good supply of compost for use as a spring top dressing.

The fashion shows this spring, presenting strictly American-made fashions, have been a treat for the eye. The latest styles which were apparent are disappearing, and the delights in a showing of American gowns as much because of their fine points of design and construction as because of their utter inability to be figures which will be copied by others.

They occur us of dressing all alike. Well, if we do, that is because the American women have refused to open their eyes sufficiently to see the difference between American creations, for they are not designed alike by any manner of means, and any sartorial in our dressing cannot be had at the doors of the artists who are working so hard to bring out new and distinct fashions for evening wear. The cap coat has been forsaken in smart

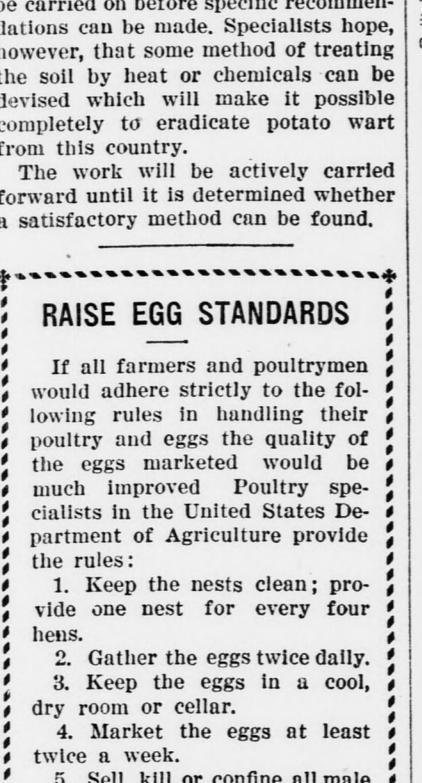


A Potato Sprayer That Covers Four Rows.

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RAISE EGG STANDARDS

If all farmers and poultrymen would adhere strictly to the following rules in handling their poultry and eggs the quality of the eggs would be much improved. Poultry specialists in the United States Department of Agriculture provide the rules:

1. Keep the nests clean; provide one nest for every four hens.

2. Gather the eggs twice daily.

3. Keep the eggs in a cool, dry place.

4. Market the eggs at least twice a week.

5. Sell, kill or confine all male birds as soon as the hatching season is over.

GRAIN ALLOWANCE FOR HENS

If Scattered in Litter Fowls Are Compelled to Take Necessary Exercise, the Pattern of Which Is Embroidered.

The backyard flock should have in addition to the table scraps a light feed of grain every morning.

Four or five handfuls of grain, or one-half inch of grain, will suffice, not exceeding ten pounds on a tenth of an acre at any one application.

The applications should be at least three weeks apart, so that the grain will not be scattered in a way that will follow and injure the plants. Fruits and crops like beans, peas and corn, that are grown for their seeds, need plenty of phosphoric acid. Root crops, as parsnips, carrots and beets, require plenty of potash.

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Short Skirt Is to Stay Awhile

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Improved Uniform International Sunday School Lesson

(By REV. P. B. FITZWATER, D. D., President of the Western Christian Union, Cincinnati, Ohio. © 1911, Western Christian Union.)

LESSON FOR APRIL 24

Poverty and Wealth.

LESSON TEXT—Isa. 6:8-10; Amos 8:4-7; Luke 16:1-8.

GOLDEN TEXT—For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

REFERENCE MATERIAL—Prov. 1:9-12; Matt. 6:19-21; Luke 12:15-24.

PRIMARY TOPIC—A Kind Woman—King 4:1-10.

SECONDARY TOPIC—What Two Men Did With Their Money—Luke 12:16-21; Acts 20:17-20.

INTERMEDIATES AND SENIOR TOPIC—Earning and Using Money—Young People—ADULT TOPIC—Problems of Poverty and Wealth.

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS—

WEEKLY SUNDAY SCHOOL.

BY MARY GRAHAM BONNER.

ADVISORY BOARD—Western Christian Union.

ILLUSTRATION—

Top of page—A woman in a short, flowing, light-colored dress, standing outdoors in a garden setting.

Bottom of page—A woman in a long, flowing, light-colored dress, standing outdoors in a garden setting.

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